

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been divided into Groups as follows:

- Group I: Claims 28-44 and 46, drawn to a method for detection of an analyte in a fluid sample comprising saturating a solid support with a trifunctional reagent (tripod Y) with a receptor, contacting a fluid sample thereto, measuring the intensity of signal, and regenerating the solid support;
- Group II: Claim 45, drawn to a complex C, corresponding to formula (I); and
- Group III: Claims 47-54, drawn to a device for continuous heterogeneous-phase detection of at least one analyte in a fluid sample and method of using the device thereof.

Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 28-44 and 46 (drawn to a method for detection of an analyte in a fluid sample comprising saturating a solid support with a trifunctional reagent (tripod Y) with a receptor, contacting a fluid sample thereto, measuring the intensity of signal, and regenerating the solid support), for examination.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 28-54 are pending. Claim 47 is currently amended to correctly identify the reference to claim 28 for tripod Y instead of now canceled claim 1. No new matter has been entered.

Respectfully Submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justine M. Wilbur', is written over a horizontal line.

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